

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No. 10/032,065
Docket No. Q67943

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-10 are all the claims pending in the application. Non-elected claims 11-16 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

As an initial matter, claim 6 has been amended slightly to correct a typographical error.

The Examiner has objected to the specification and claims, alleging several informalities. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. As such, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3-5, 6, and 8 and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Applicants note with respect to dependent claim 3, that that claim has been amended to recite that the configuration of bar members includes *two* distinct pairs *of* outer bar members. Although the scope of this claim is unchanged because the previous version of claim 3 recited *pairs* (plural), the Examiner had been incorrectly interpreting the claim to include a *single* outer bar member and two other pairs of bar members.

Conclusion

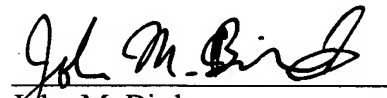
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No. 10/032,065
Docket No. Q67943

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


John M. Bird
Registration No. 46,027

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 7, 2004